6.0 CONCLUSIONS

The Century Mine Mitigation Site meets many of the success criteria specified in the 2002 federal and state permits issued for Century Mine coal refuse disposal area. However some areas of deficiencies have been identified. Recommendations for remedial action are presented in Section 5 of this report.

6.1 WETLAND MITIGATION AREAS

The WMA consists of approximately 2.80 acres of diverse wetland habitats, including shrub/wet meadow, shallow marsh, and intermediate marsh wetland habitats. The WMA provides suitable wetland hydrology, hydric soil conditions, and a diverse wetland plant community. The WMA is dominated by native, hydrophytic vegetation and the percent cover by hydrophytes meets the performance standard requiring 85% areal vegetative cover dominated by hydrophilic vegetation. Species composition in the plant community has stabilized and it appears that no single plant species of provided greater than 50% cover within WMA A, although cover by narrow leaf cattail exceeds 50% in WRA B.

The woody plant survival rate for wetland habitat areas has not been documented for WMA A, but survival in WMA B is estimated as 79%. These plantings have increased woody plant species diversity above that proposed in the wetland mitigation plan and the asexual reproduction of some woody plant species in wetland habitats has produced greater than expected survival rates. Reconstruction of the berm along the south side of wetland A should be completed in areas of beaver damage when step pool reconstruction is completed in Long Run

6.2 STREAM IMPROVEMENT/RESTORATION AREAS

Restoration and improvement projects have been implemented on 5,075 linear feet of streams within the Long Run, Piney Creek South, and Piney Creek North projects. The stream restoration and enhancement efforts have met with mixed success. Most riparian areas are in fair to good condition and most areas are stabilized with both woody and herbaceous vegetation.